

# Gator Gazette

AIR FORCE RESERVE COMMAND → 917th WING, BARKSDALE AFB, LA → FEBRUARY 2000

COL. JACK C. IHLE,  
917TH WING COMMANDER  
HAS BEEN SELECTED TO PIN  
ON HIS FIRST STAR.

COMING NEXT ISSUE

## By day and by night -- A-10's hit target

Story and Photos by  
Mrs. Belinda Bazinet  
Wing Public Affairs

The 47<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron took to the Florida skies last month, becoming the first squadron to fly and drop live munitions from MacDill since the early 1990s.

Century Eagle was designed to give A-10 pilots experience dropping live munitions on various targets, and gave the bomb loaders experience loading live munitions. The aircrew also flew numerous night missions, training with night vision goggles.

"The main purpose of this trip was for the weapons loaders to load, and the pilots to drop live ordnance," said Maj. Tom Cruzan, 47<sup>th</sup> FS instructor pilot and deployment project officer. "Flying with live weapons heightens our awareness of what we're doing."

The A-10s carried and dropped live 500-pound MK-82 general purpose bombs, enabling the loaders a chance



Maj. Rodney Glass, an A-10 instructor pilot, adjusts his night vision goggles prior to a flight.



Staff Sgt. Robert Carter, an aircraft armament systems mechanic, guides a MK-82 bomb to the rack.

to put their training to use. Load teams work together year after year, and teamwork comes naturally for them.

"We train constantly on bomb building and loading," Tech. Sgt. Bruce Bech, an armament systems mechanic, said. "We do work a little slower with live weapons, and naturally, we're always safety conscious."

"Live bombs look different than the inert ones, but everything else is the same," Staff Sgt. Robert Carter, an armament systems mechanic, said. "The jammer doesn't know if it's live or inert."

Because of the high possibility of fires at the range, the A-10s were only able to drop 40 of the 106 MK-82s they carried to

→ See 47th continued on Page 4



Tech. Sgt. Will Hawkins, an operations resource assistant, updates the next day's flying schedule.

A message from the  
Wing Commander

# We have a dream

I had the pleasure last month of attending the base's memorial service honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. In addition to some great music and a superb recital of King's infamous "I have a dream" speech, the service provided a catalyst for everyone present to reflect on where we have been, where we are and where we are going. Dr. King said, "I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed -- we hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal."

As is evident by happenings around the world, our country, our local communi-

ties, and yes, even our 917th family, we have not yet realized the dream. Every Air Force Reserve member deserves the opportunity to work and live in an environment that truly values human dignity and is free of discrimination. Each of us plays a key role in creating that proper working and living environment. There is zero tolerance for non-compliance. Equality is integral to readiness and a cornerstone of our commitment to each member of the Air Force Reserve team.

This month we celebrate Black History Month as we reflect on African-Americans' contributions to our nation.



**Col. Jack C. Ihle**

These contributions are not just black history, but important parts of American history. In closing, I challenge each and every member of the 917th to do your part in realizing Dr. King's dream of "equality for all." We will be a better Wing, a better Air Force, and a better nation.

## Gator Gazette

917th Wing  
Office of Public Affairs  
1000 Davis Avenue E  
Bldg. 6803, Rm. 229  
Barksdale AFB, LA 71110  
Vol. 7 No. 2  
February 2000

**Commander**  
Col. Jack C. Ihle

**Chief, Public Affairs**  
Mrs. Belinda Bazinet

**Public Affairs Officer**  
Capt. Jeri Hansen

**Public Affairs NCOIC, Editor**  
Master Sgt. Jessica D'Aurizio

**Public Affairs Assistant**  
Mrs. Betty Stephens

**Staff Writers**  
Staff Sgt. Teena Britton  
Senior Airman Shannon Collins

This funded Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the *Gator Gazette* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 917th Wing Public Affairs Office.

All photographs are U.S. Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

UTA Sunday at 12 p.m. is the deadline for submitting articles to public affairs for publication in the following month's issue of the *Gator Gazette*.

Office hours: Monday through Friday and UTA's 7 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Office Phone: (318) 456-9181

Fax: (318) 456-7444

Inputs for the *Gator Gazette* can also be made through e-mail to 917wg.pa@barksdale.af.mil



## Chaplain's Corner: Good Presidents Don't Just Happen

By Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Charles R. Langford

The month of February includes Presidents' Day -- a holiday to remember and honor our presidents. Two of the greatest, George Washington and Abraham Lincoln have February birthdays. When we consider the leaders who have seen this nation through almost 225 years of independent rule, let us not forget what we can do for present and future presidents.

One of the first things people of faith can do for a president or any leader is to pray for them. As a Christian I find it rather convicting to read Paul's words in 1 Timothy 2:1-4. He is saying that Christians should make it a priority to pray for governmental leaders. This is especially amazing when one realizes at the time it meant pray-

ing for a Roman emperor who was trying obliterate the Church. I hope you will join me in praying more consistently for President Clinton and our other leaders beginning this month.

Also, each of us have the privilege this year of participating in electing a new president. On November 7, we vote for the candidate of our choice. We, as citizen-soldiers should especially cherish this privilege. Follow the news about the candidates, explore the issues, and become informed. Make a point of being involved in this critical process that will affect us all. We can truly honor the leaders of the past and the many who have put their lives on the line in times of conflict by being an informed voter in 2000.

## Honor Guards leave lasting impression

By Chief Master Sgt. Leslie McGowan  
355th Medical Operations Squadron

DAVIS-MONTHAN AIR FORCE BASE, Ariz.

(ACCNS) — The telephone rang abruptly, waking me from a sound sleep. I looked at the clock; it was 11:30 p.m. As I reached for the phone, I wondered who would call so late.

A soft voice said "hello," but I couldn't recognize the caller because she was crying. I waited until the person could speak. She is a former co-worker and friend named

Nancy. She retired in Ashland, Wisc., with her husband, Tim, after a career in the Air Force.

Nancy and Tim had a 20-year-old daughter, Leasha, who was an airman first class in security forces deployed to Saudi Arabia. Nancy was calling to tell me that her daughter, who she was so proud of, had died that day in a vehicle accident.

I felt numb and helpless as she expressed her disbelief, grief and pain.

She asked me to send some messages to people I knew, who would care, because she wasn't ready to sit down and put Leasha's death into words on paper. Leasha's body arrived home one week later escorted by an airman.

On the day of the funeral, I called Nancy and Tim to offer words of comfort, however inadequate they would be. She told me about Leasha's military funeral.

Since Ashland is far from any military base, the honor  
→ See GUARD continued on Page 5

## Golf shirts for sale

The 917th has golf shirts available for order with the wing patch embroidered over the heart. The shirts are available in white and navy at a cost of \$20.

If you would like the shirt in a different color, there must be 11 other people wanting that color. To order your shirts, contact Major Steve Powell at 456-8300 or Master Sgt. Tina Chasteen at 456-9016.

## NCO Leadership Development Program offered

The next NCO LDP class is scheduled for Mar. 22-26 and Mar. 29 - Apr. 2. All interested Staff and Tech. Sgts. should contact their supervisor, commander or training office. Nominations are due to the training office by Feb. 6.

For more information contact Master Sgt. Pat Roberson, training technician, at 456-8066 or 1-800-516-2065.

## Get One program needs you

A program designed to give all 917th Wing personnel an opportunity to assist in manning our Wing is available.

The recruiters want to assure the Wing is manned with the best possible people. You can help by referring a friend, co-worker, neighbor, etc. to the local recruiting office.

For more information contact Master Sgt. Larry Giles at 456-9752 or by e-mail at larry.giles@barksdale.af.mil.

## Chemical warfare requirements change

A new requirement for chemical warfare training includes two booklets that everyone must bring to initial and refresher training.

These booklets are the Airman Manual 10-100 and the Air Force Handbook 32-4014. To obtain the books or for more information, contact your disaster preparedness representative.

## Last call for wing coins

The last day to order wing coins is February 6. The coins are \$3 and must be paid for in advance.

The coins have a colored wing emblem on the front and on the back a B-52 and A-10.

Anyone interested can stop by the Public Affairs Office (Bldg. 6803, Rm. 229) to place an order.

# Commissaries change visitor policy

**By Army Staff Sgt. Kathleen T. Rhem  
American Forces Press Service**

Thanks to a recent change, authorized customers can now bring guests in while they shop at most commissaries.

Under the policy, identification cards are checked at the checkout lane instead of the door. This still limits purchases to authorized customers. Visitors are not allowed to purchase commissary goods, officials said, and only visitors accompanied by an authorized shopper are allowed in a store. Commissary officials maintain the right to spot check for unauthorized people in their stores.

"The new visitors policy allows access to the benefit for patrons who otherwise might be inhibited from using what is rightly theirs," said John F. McGowan, chief executive officer for the Defense Commissary Agency. For instance, commissary officials

said, shoppers have asked if they could bring in relatives visiting from out of town rather than making them wait in the car. DeCA had also heard from military spouses who found it difficult to use the commissary when they provided home day care, officials said.

"This policy was established as an enhancement to the quality of life of our commissary patrons," DeCA spokesman Timothy C. Ford said.

"It also became increasingly difficult to justify not permitting visitor access to commissaries in cases where visitors are allowed in almost all other service or retail facilities on an installation," he said.

Commissary officials added that installation or higher-level commanders may still require ID checks for entry because the policy allows exceptions due to security concerns.

## Celebrating African American history month

**By 1st Lt. Janette Williams-Smith  
Wing Military Equal Opportunity Office**

Black history month is celebrated to recognize African American heritage, struggles, achievements and progresses. This year's national theme is "Heritage and Horizons: The African American Legacies and Challenges for the 21st Century."

Black history month takes on a paramount significance as we enter the 21st century. Civil right laws and celebrations such as this have exposed the legal consequences of overt discriminatory practices and racial harassment. The military has taken a "no tolerance" stance on these issues.

Although measures have been taken to eliminate/reduce prejudicial attitudes which generate discriminatory acts, Attitudes can only change through education. To initiate learning, attend or partake in a black history activity.

Base activities include an Art and Essay contest for elementary and junior high students. Winners will be announced during a luncheon hosted at the Officer's Club on Feb. 28, at 11:30 a.m. The guest speaker will be Gen. Lester Lyles, Air Force vice chief of staff.

For more information contact Mrs. Betty Stephens at 456-5109.

## Food and fitness

No matter what your risk of disease, you'll be healthier if you:

- Eat less saturated fat (red meat, cheese, whole milk, ice cream, butter, pies, etc.).
- Eat less trans fat (stick margarine, shortening, fried chicken and fish, french fries, cakes, pies, doughnuts, and biscuits).
- Eat less cholesterol (limit egg yolks to no more than four per week and meat, fish, and poultry to no more than six ounces a day).
- Eat less sodium (canned and dried soups, fast food, frozen dinners, pizza, processed meats and cheeses).
- Eat eight to ten servings of fruit, vegetables, and beans a day.
- Eat more whole-grain breads and cereals.
- Eat more low-fat or fat-free milk, yogurt, and cheese (two or three servings a day).
- Limit high-sugar foods (soft drinks, fruit drinks, cakes, cookies, candy, sweetened cereals, etc.).
- If you drink, limit alcohol to two drinks a day (for men) and one drink a day (for women).
- Exercise at least 30 minutes on most days (brisk walking, running, aerobics, etc.).

(Nutrition Action Health Letter, Vol. 24, No. 9, Nov. 97)

# Air Force identity, symbol in transition

By Senior Airman A.J. Bosker  
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON—As the Air Force continues its transition to the expeditionary aerospace force, it is focusing its identity to help with recruiting and retention in the new millennium.

As part of this effort, officials are working to establish a single, compelling theme and symbol to represent the Air Force.

"As we enter the 21st century, our identity—who we are, what we do and what we believe—will represent both our heritage and our future," said Gen. Michael E. Ryan, Air Force chief of staff.

Secretary of the Air Force Whit Peters said, "We know Air Force men and women take great pride in what they do. Our identity effort crystallizes what they're thinking. It will foster unity in the Air Force and help the American public understand the worthy work we do—from fighting the nation's wars to peacekeeping to humanitarian relief."

How is the Air Force determining how to express its identity? With the help of a private corporate identity firm, Siegel & Gale, the Air Force spent the past year conducting research among the service and the public to capture the common elements of its identity that have great meaning to bind its people together.

"Since last February, we've conducted seven surveys, held 68 focus groups and interviewed 13 retired four-star generals and 110 other people," Rand said. "We've taken input from about 10,000 people. Of this number, 7,500 were enlisted members, officers, and civilians in the active force, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve.

The other 2,500 were members of the general public."

This extensive research was used to find strengths and weaknesses in Air Force identity, Rand said. "We found that our people generally feel allegiance to the unit they belong to and to their job, more than they feel part of one big organization."

"If you look at our base welcome signs, you don't get as much a sense of the Air Force as you do of the units behind the gates," Rand said. "The same applies to our aircraft, our newspapers and home pages, and even our uniforms."

"Unless you have really good eyes and can read the U.S. Air Force tape on someone's battle dress uniform, you may not know what service he or she represents," he said. "As for our aircraft, which are seen by millions of people, the tail markings tend to represent the wing and the command. You have to look pretty hard to see U.S. Air Force on our aircraft."

To overcome these inconsistencies, Siegel & Gale identified the four prevailing themes that emerged from the research: individual achievement, intelligence and technology, core values, and mission. They recommended the focus of the identity be the vital mission the Air Force performs around the world, because it was the theme that surfaced with the most passion throughout the research. The other three themes will support the mission focus, Rand said.

In characterizing the mission, Siegel & Gale concluded the Air Force is a world-class, mission-ready organization. From this, they recommended the theme "World Ready." They also devised a symbol that captured both the heritage and future of the

Air Force.

While theme alternatives are still in development, the proposed symbol updates the Hap Arnold wings and star with a more modern, angular design.

With the transition to the EAF and a new millennium, our leadership decided the timing is right to modernize our identity and give us an official symbol which will preserve the heritage of the Arnold wings."

During research, Air Force and public audiences saw various meanings in the new design.

"Most saw an eagle in flight and a medal of valor," he said. "Enlisted members saw their stripes and officers related to the star. Air Force people and civilians alike identified the new symbol with the Air Force's leading edge, aerospace mission."

Don't expect to see changes throughout the Air Force immediately, according to Rand. "There are no final decisions on any of this yet," he said. "We're still working through all the options on the development of the theme, the use of the symbol, and the implementation of both."

"We're trying to encapsulate the essence of what it means to be in the Air Force," Peters said. "The Air Force is a wonderful organization. It offers extraordinary opportunities beyond the monetary and the educational benefits that we have been using in recruiting."

"The Air Force is a fast-paced, fun, tough, and rewarding environment. It's about teamwork, patriotic service, and belonging to a world-class organization ready to respond anywhere in the world in a matter of hours. That's what we're trying to communicate."

## 47th

MacDill. Crews also dropped 171 BDU-33s and fired 8060 rounds of 30-millimeter ammunition.

The seven A-10s flew daily missions to the Pine Castle Range and the Avon Park Bombing Range. "It's a rush to drop live weapons," Cruzan said. "We're like kids; it's fun to see things go boom."

**Photo: Tech. Sgt. Robert (Flash) Zeller, armament system mechanic, connects a MK-82 during the 47th Fighter Squadron's deployment to MacDill AFB, Fla.**



Continued from Page 1



The Det. 1, 307th RED HORSE Squadron, pave firing range road with asphalt provided by the 2nd Civil Engineer Squadron during the first week of December.

PHOTO BY CAPT. MICHAEL FALCON

# RED HORSE paves the way

By Capt. Jeri Hansen  
Wing Public Affairs

The Det. 1, 307th RED HORSE Squadron, paved firing range road using asphalt provided by the 2nd Civil Engineers the first week of December.

"On a rainy day, the road was a real hazard," said Staff Sgt. Barrett Nelson, a 917th Security Forces combat arms instructor. "Cars would slide around and sometimes end up in the ditch. The instructors and students always complained about the dust, mud, and flying rocks."

According to 307th Chief of Operations Capt. Michael Falcon, 10 people completed the 1500-foot long road in only a few days using 500 tons of asphalt.

The crews obtained training on asphalt pouring which helped prepare them for their upcoming work on the B-52 electronic-scoring bombing range in Jena, La. Also, RED HORSE improved safety for the firing range instructors and students.

"It's such a relief not to have to deal with the hazards," said Nelson, "It was like getting an early Christmas present."

## GUARD

Continued from Page 2

guard was from Grand Forks Air Force Base, N.D., and the pallbearers were from Ellsworth Air Force Base, S.D. Nancy's community had never seen a military funeral, and she said that they were "wowed" by the ceremony. "I have never been so proud of my Air Force as I was today," she told me.

The honor guard member who presented the flag was so choked up Nancy could barely understand the airman's words. Nancy accepted the flag and rendered a salute to her fallen airman and daughter. At the end of the ceremony, a bald eagle flew over the site. Nancy later said it must have been a fly-by for Leasha.

Afterward, the honor guard and pallbearers visited with the family and friends at Nancy and Tim's home. "We laughed, we cried, we told Air Force stories from the past," Nancy said.

The people of Ashland saw the Air Force in action through the honor guard and the pallbearers. Those Air Force members from Grand Forks and Ellsworth significantly helped a family and a community to get through a very tough day, and left a lasting impression.

Honor guard members should be held in the highest esteem for the difficult tasks they endure. We only see the cordons, the

posting of flags at ceremonies and drill demonstrations. We don't often see the other side.

Our honor guard members are very young, fairly new in the Air Force, and sometimes sent away from home. They perform an extremely emotional ceremony and comfort grieving families.

Supervisors, talk to your honor guard members and find out where they have been and what they are doing.

We know they are gone every other month, but we don't know the details of the difficult tasks they perform. They may need someone to talk to and unload the heavy burden of grief they witness and sometimes absorb at funerals while consoling others.

I'd like to send my personal thanks and gratitude from Nancy's family to all the supervisors and co-workers who have "to do more with even less" to support the honor guard.

The people we task give our active-duty and retired Air Force members a tremendous final tribute and serve as ambassadors to our families. Honor guard members - you do us proud. Many thanks for stepping forward and accepting the challenge. (Anyone interested in signing up for the Honor Guard can contact Tech. Sgt. James Taliaferro at 456-9457.)

# Voices: What special plans do you have for your significant other on Valentine's Day?



**Tech. Sgt. Charles Cole**  
**Logistic Support Squadron**

"I'm going to take the day off, get some flowers and a few items from Victoria Secrets. Then I'm taking her to a late dinner, followed by a hotel with some champagne."



**Staff Sgt. Carolina Ramirez**  
**Medical Squadron**

"His birthday is on Valentines Day so he's getting a nice dinner and a special surprise."



**Staff Sgt. Janette Spears**  
**Communication Squadron**

"I'm going to be in transit from a TDY to Turkey on Valentine's Day so I'm going to have balloons and candy delivered."



**Staff Sgt. Jackie Kirkwood**  
**Chaplain Services**

"I'm going to send her flowers at work that day and that evening take her to a nice quiet dinner away from the kids."

## 93rd Bomb Squadron

Capt. Paul Harper, Haughton, La.  
Capt. Martin Carter, Clemmon, N.C.  
Staff Sgt. Shannon Cox, Tahlequah, Okla.  
Senior Airman Michael Barr, Glenn Heights, Texas  
Senior Airman Michael Hollinsworth, Lewisville, Texas  
Senior Airman Amanda Ledet, Sulphur, La.

## 917th Maintenance Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Dwight Sanders, Texarkana, Ark.  
Senior Airman Todd Cook, Sulphur, La.

## 917th Civil Engineer Squadron

Senior Airman Lloyd Smith, Conway, Ark.

## 917th Communication Squadron

Senior Airman Kevin Harris, Dallas, Texas

## 917th Operations Support Flight

Senior Airman Jay Miller, Nacogdoches, Texas

## 917th Security Forces Squadron

Senior Airman Jose Cruz, Dallas, Texas

## Newcomers

## 917th Wing

Master Sgt. Lary Knight, Lindale, Texas

## 917th Logistic Support Squadron

Capt. Robert Thompson, Navarre, Fla.  
2nd Lt. April Schroader, Goldsboro, N.C.  
Staff Sgt. Nicola Buday, Hurricane, Utah  
Staff Sgt. James Farris, Georgetown La.  
Staff Sgt. William Rowles, Monroe, La.  
Senior Airman Tammy Crema, Shreveport, La.  
Senior Airman Tracy Roach, Shreveport, La.

## 917th Medical Support Squadron

Airman 1st Class Tiffany Bady, San Antonio, Texas  
Senior Airman Paulette Coleman, Dallas, Texas  
Senior Airman Michael Lovett, Huntington, Texas  
Senior Airman Susan McKeon, Bullard, Texas  
Airman Basic Kristie Watson, Lufkin, Texas

## 307th RED HORSE Squadron

Senior Airman Todd Cook, Sulphur, La.  
Senior Airman Irving Hernandez, Pearland, Texas

## NCO and Airman of the Year



**Staff Sgt. Wesley D. Cline**  
**917th Civil Engineer Squadron**



**Staff Sgt. Barney King II**  
**917th Civil Engineer Squadron**

## Promotions

### Chief Master Sergeant

Clifford Hoskins

### Senior Master Sergeant

Richard Hill Bobby Holliday, Jr.  
Bobby Kea Steven Vogle

### Master Sergeant

Stacy Bauer James Boje  
Claude Cohen John Daye  
Peter Foster Gregory Garza  
Victor Goff Wayne Griffin  
Scott Hepp Sean Lane  
Christopher Lee Aaron Lingle  
Daniel Moyer Rickey Shankle  
Greg Steele Michael Thornton  
John Weatherford David Wood  
Gary Yates Larry Zilksa

### Technical Sergeant

Martin Allen Wendell Bandy  
Misty Slider Gavin Smith

### Staff Sergeant

Patrick Dixon Jesse Hilderbrand  
Daniel Howerter John Jobrey  
Rodney Price Michael Stratton  
Steven Tittle Derek Turpin

### Senior Airman

Frankie Gay Michael Balkom  
Christoper Arceneaux

### Airman 1st Class

Fabia Coleman Justine Pearson

### Airman

April Adkins Danielle Ardoen  
Latoya Korseay William McDuffie  
Jameshia Smith Brian Tyler



# 917th Wing Training Schedule

February UTA 5-6

Time	Event	Location
<b>Saturday</b>		
0600	UTA prayer breakfast	Red River Inn Dining
0630-0700	Sign in	Assigned unit
0700	Wing staff meeting	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 105
0700-0830	Intro -- all newcomers	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 227
0730	Long & Short fly physicals	Flight surgeon office
0730-1030	Immunizations	Base hospital
0800	Physicals (non-fly)	Base hospital foyer
0800	Chem. Warfare Refresher	Hanger 7
0900-1000	Yellow fever shots	Base hospital
0900	Anti-terrorism training	Bldg. 6803, Rm 227
0900	OJT training mtg.	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 123
0930, 1030 & 1330	Family readiness briefing	Bldg. 4713, Rm. 17
1000	First sergeants meeting	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 105
1000	Unit deploy managers	Bldg. 6803, Rm 227
1200-1430	Immunizations	307th RED HORSE
1300	Chem. Warfare Refresher	Hanger 7
1300	Wing safety training	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 227
<b>1550-1615</b>	<b>Sign-out 1550 -- CES, MSS, WG 1600 -- LS 1610 -- MS</b>	

<b>Sunday</b>		
0630-0700	Sign in	Assigned Unit
0800	Chief's meeting	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 105
0800	Human Relations	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 227
0800	Initial Chem. Warfare	Hanger 7
0800-1200	EO 2000	Bldg. 4714, 3rd Floor
0830 & 1230	EOC testing	Bldg. 4314, 3rd floor
0900	Web Masters meeting	Bldg. 6815, T-Net Room
0900	Substance Abuse	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 227
0900	Unit advisory council	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 105
0900	Catholic Mass	Base Chapel 2
1015-1100	Protestant services	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 227
1030	Family readiness briefing	Bldg. 4713, Rm. 17
1300	HRDC meeting	Bldg. 6803, Rm 105
1300	Eyeglass inserts	Bldg. 4845 (by hospital)
1300	Flightline drivers training	Bldg. 6825, Rm. 243
1430	SORTS meeting	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 105
1515	47th Commanders call	Bldg. 6803, Rm. 227
<b>1550-1615</b>	<b>Sign-out 1550 -- CES, MSS, WG 1600 -- LS 1610 -- MS</b>	

## Know anyone that's looking for a recruiter?

### Barksdale AFB, La.

Master Sgt. Larry Giles  
Master Sgt. Joe Menna  
1-800-241-4071

### Little Rock AFB, Ark.

Master Sgt. Kris Jaso  
501-987-7188

### Mesquite/Tyler, Texas

Staff Sgt. Brian Mobely  
972-681-6384/903-534-8618

### Shreveport, La.

Tech. Sgt. Don Copeland  
318-683-0331

### Texarkana, Texas

Staff Sgt. TeNeuss Land  
903-223-7030

### Monroe, La.

Master Sgt. James Headrick  
318-323-1898

## SERVICES

### **917th Military Personnel Flight**

**Bldg. 6803, Room 140, ext. 9205**

#### **Saturday**

7 - 11 a.m. - Newcomers in-processing.  
11 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. - All customer service functions (open during lunch)

#### **Sunday**

7 - 8 a.m. - Closed for training.  
8 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. - All customer service functions (open during lunch)  
2:30 - 4 p.m. - Closed for training.

#### **Monday - Friday**

7 a.m. - 4 p.m. All service.

**NOTE: Customer Service functions include in & out processing, ID cards, DEERS, DD93s, SGLI, Vehicle Decals, Record Reviews, etc.**

### **Base Billeting**

**Bldg. 5155, 456-3091/3092**

Open 24 hours a day, seven days a week (reservations required).

### **Chaplain**

**Bldg. 6803, Room 239, 456-9179**

Saturday & Sunday - 7 a.m. - 4 p.m.

### **Red River Dining Hall**

**Bldg. 4631**

Breakfast - 5:30 - 6:30 a.m.

Lunch MS - 11 - 1

47FS - 11:45 WG - 11

MSS - 11:45 93 BS - 11:15

CES - 12 SPS - 12:15

Shuttle service to the dining hall runs every 20 minutes starting at 11 a.m.. Pick-up points are Bldg. 6850 and Bldg. 6825 (northeast side of Bldg. 6803)

**NOTE: You must show ID card, newcomer's letter or DD form 1172.**

### **Family Readiness Center**

**Bldg. 4713**

Saturday & Sunday - 8 - 11 a.m.

### **Military drivers license**

Military drivers license issue is available on the main UTA in Bldg. 6825, Rm. 240. Issue hours are as follows:

Saturday & Sunday noon - 2 p.m.

### **Lodging**

For information on official or space A lodging call 1-888-AF-LODGE. Once the automated system answers, key in the first three letters of the base you are trying to reach.

### **Military Pay**

Main UTA hours of operation:

Sat. 7 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Sun. 1 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

# 917th Wing wins Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

By Mrs. Belinda Bazinet  
Wing Public Affairs

The 917<sup>th</sup> Wing was awarded the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for the period of Oct. 1, 1997 –Sept. 30, 1999. Any members assigned to the unit during this period are now eligible to wear the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award ribbon.

The Air Force Outstanding Unit Award recognizes units that have performed in an exceptional manner for the nominated time period.

“All members of the 917th Wing should be extremely proud of the Wing’s many achievements that have resulted in this prestigious award,” said Col. Jack Ihle, 917th Wing commander.

Some of the 917<sup>th</sup>’s accomplishments included winning the Chief of Staff Team Excellence Award and Secretary of Defense Award for the Self-Inspection Tracking System (SITS). The paperless, user-friendly and totally automated database tracks all discrepancies, and has saved more than 17,400 man-hours per year and \$406,000 at this unit alone.

Also, the Wing passed the Unit Compliance Inspection with flying colors and aced the 8<sup>th</sup> Air Force Stan/Eval visit, demonstrating high state of B-52 mission readiness and ability to provide outstanding training to the operational A-10 community. The 917th also successfully completed the first Reserve B-52 Conventional Operational Readiness Inspection. The 93<sup>rd</sup> Bomb Squadron was the only bomber unit in Air Combat Command to ever fly 113 percent of the IG tasked sorties.

After receiving a \$350,000 Congressional grant, the 917<sup>th</sup> sponsored STARBASE Louisiana. The program creates excitement and interest in math, science and technology by using an aviation theme.



## In Remembrance of Staff Sgt. Jim Wilkerson

*The 917<sup>th</sup> Wing lost a friend and colleague when Staff Sgt. Jim Wilkerson was killed in a motorcycle accident on Jan. 15.*

*Wilkerson, a structural carpenter with the civil engineer squadron, had been in the 917<sup>th</sup> for almost 18 years. “He was multi-talented and could do anything,” said Senior Master Sgt. Howard Waller, a pavement construction equipment operator and a co-worker from the Red River Army Depot. “It is a real loss to both the Air Force Reserve and the Depot.*

*“He was the kind of guy you could call anytime, and he’d be there. He was very reliable,” he said. “He will be well missed.”*

*Wilkerson is survived by his wife and five children.*



PHOTO BY SENIOR AIRMAN SHANNON COLLINS

**Tech. Sgt. Naomi Soliday, 917th MXS, shows an Ole Miss fan to her seat at Independence Stadium during the New Years Eve game hosted in Shreveport, La.**

### UTA Schedule

Main	Alternate
Feb. 5-6	Feb. 12-13
Mar. 4-5	Mar. 11-12
Apr. 1-2	Apr. 8-9
May 6-7	May 20-21
June 3-4	June 10-11
July 8-9	July 15-16
August 5-6	August 12-13
Sept. 9-10	Sept. 16-17
Oct. 14-15	Oct. 21-22
Nov. 4-5	Nov. 18-19
Dec. 2-3	Dec. 2-3

917th Wing  
1000 Davis Ave. East  
Barksdale AFB, LA 71110-2287

OFFICIAL BUSINESS  
Penalty for Private Use \$300

PRESORTED  
FIRST CLASS MAIL  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
SHREVEPORT, LA  
PERMIT NO. 118